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names of the celebrities identified with the "Bird Masque" and the Epilogue:

"A compact, then, that when we go
Forth from these gracious trees
Into the world, we go as witnesses
Before the men who make our country's laws,
And by our witness show
In burning word
The meaning of these sylvan mysteries:
Freedom and Sanctuary for the birds."

The original bird bath cast in bronze graces today the "Sanctuary"—the gift of Mrs. Helen Foster Barnett to bird conservation.

The bath's translation into terra cotta is another story, with secret places open only to craftsmen in touch with the thorny road that leads—sometimes—to dreams come true!

"I had a potter's wheel," said Annetta Johnson Saint-Gaudens, who embodies in her own winsome personality not a little of the birdlike; "my studio assistant had worked in the Rookwood pottery while studying sculpture. From my design and under my constant supervision he 'threw' the bird bath. Those were happy days! Then the summer colony scattered, and with it went much of the life and color that had made studio work joyous. My assistant had warned me that he would soon be off. The Hampshire Pottery which had finally consented to develop the bird bath dare not hazard the use of the amateurish molds I had made. Often I was too ill to work, I knew if freezing weather came early the whole would go. The assistant consented to stay

and make the molds. In the process the pedestal was cracked, the lettering done badly and mistakes were a plenty. To add to this the assistant was obliged to depart.

"I was left alone in a lonely house far up in lonely hills, with a mother cat trying to rear an ungrateful family!

"All day long and far into the night I worked making 'presses' in the mold and converting the rounding sections into a flat frieze.

"Previously, I had taken the original mold and fragments of the original pedestal to the Hampshire Pottery. The chemist and designer made a press which I refinished and we straightened the crooked pedestal. He modeled another mold, corrected and finished the inscription.

"We made several experiments with clay bodies but before they could be brought to successful issue, the chemist died."

Before her marriage to the late Louis Saint-Gaudens, Annetta Johnson was a pupil of Augustus Saint-Gaudens and later his studio assistant. Much of her skill and labor are embodied in his masterpieces, notably the Grant equestrian monument in Jackson Park, Chicago.

"While working on Louis's statue of 'Painting,'" said the sculptor, putting the finishing touch to a thrush in a bird bath frieze in the Perth Amboy atelier where I found her, "I was subconsciously terra cotting—if I may coin a word—the bird bath! The birds may sense it and glorify it in their matin or vesper song. Who knows?"

ECONOMIC VALUE OF THE MUCH-ABUSED OWL

By T. GILBERT PEARSON

THERE is a widespread misconception as to the economic value of Owls. Most people regard these silent flyers of the night as being extremely destructive to game-birds and poultry.

There are in North America forty-six species and sub-species of the Owl family; probably not more than half a dozen of which ever capture game-birds or visit the poultry yard. On the other hand

owls are of great value as destroyers of rats, mice, grasshoppers, beetles, and other pests of the fruit-trees and growing crops.

Here are shown the portraits of six representatives of this much-abused family of birds, ranging from the little Elf Owl, five and one-half inches long, to the Great Horned Owl, which has an expanse of wings measuring five feet from tip to tip.

Screech Owls are common throughout the United States, nesting in holes in trees and old Woodpecker holes.



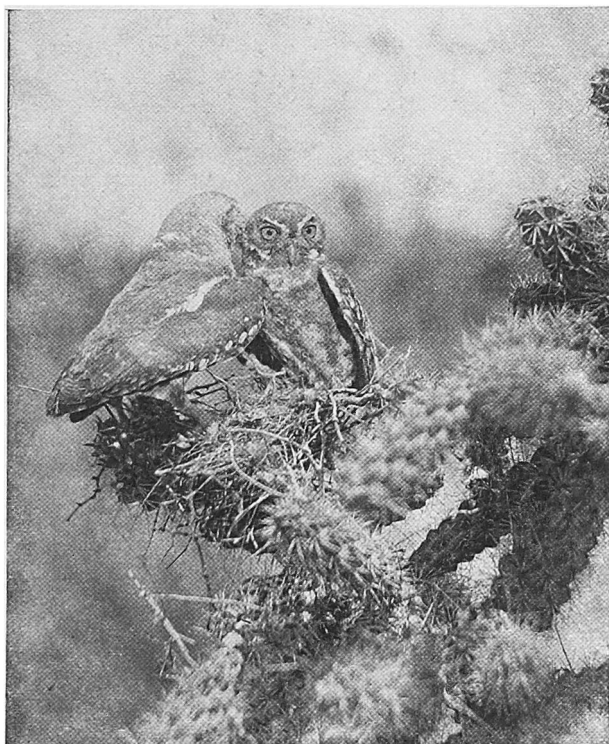
They destroy many grasshoppers, field-mice, beetles, and occasionally a small bird. When taken young they make interesting pets.



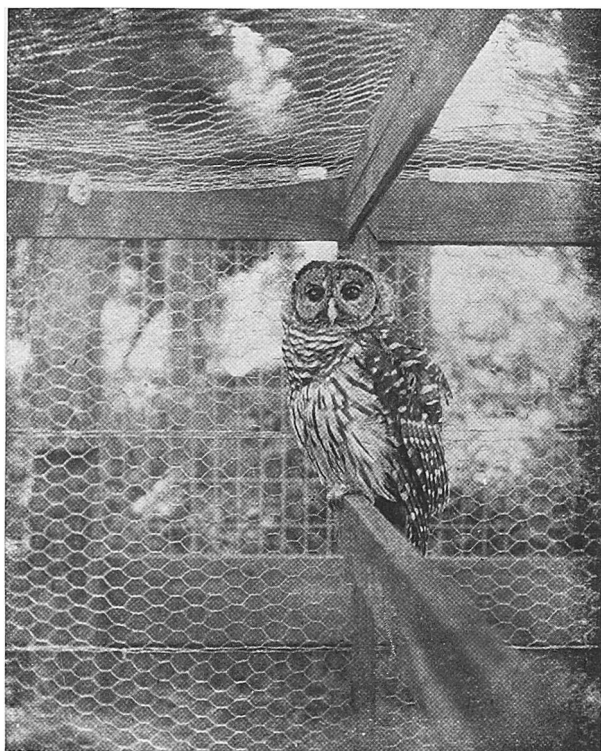
The Barn Owl, often known as the Monkey-faced Owl, is found in nearly all parts of the United States. It is a great destroyer of mice. As a mouser one of them is equal to six cats.



The Great Horned Owl on Nest. This bird lays its eggs in the holes of trees or deserted hawks' nests. Its prey consists of rabbits, squirrels, skunks, partridges, crows, and occasionally a hen.



The Little Elf Owls, in size scarcely larger than an English sparrow inhabit desert countries of the Southwest. They often come about camp-fires and capture insects on which they largely prey.



The Barred Owl is the common "Hoot Owl" of the swamps and low woodlands. It feeds chiefly on rats, mice, and other rodents. This is one of the most common owls seen in captivity.